REMARKS

In response to the August 9, 2005 Office Action, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's analysis.

The present invention relates to a modularized electronic device coupling architecture, and to a method for the coupling of a first modularized electronic device with a second modularized electronic device, wherein the first modularized electronic device is independently operable when dismounted from the second modularized electronic device.

Independent claims 1 and 10 are directed to the modularized electronic device coupling architecture, which comprises a rotation mechanism, a pivot mechanism, and at least one insert leg. The rotation mechanism includes a fixed portion fixed to the second modularized electronic device, and a circular rotatable portion on the fixed portion. The pivot mechanism is fixed to the first modularized electronic device. The insert leg has a first end fixed to the pivot mechanism, and a second end used for insertion into an engaging hole in the circular rotatable portion of the rotation mechanism. Claim 10 further comprises a first-type connector and a second-type connector for establishing a data communication link between the first and second modularized electronic devices when they are coupled to each other.

Independent claim 17 is directed to the modularized electronic device coupling method.

In the present invention, the first modularized electronic device, when being coupled to the second modularized electronic device, can be collapsible and rotatable on the second modularized electronic device. The coupling architecture and method of the present invention also allow the first modularized electronic device to be dismounted from the second modularized electronic device, such that the first modularized electronic device can serve as an independent functional unit and is independently operable.

Neither Chen et al. (US 6,912,122) nor Helot et al. (US 6,437,973) teaches or suggests a coupling architecture and method for the coupling of a first modularized electronic device with a second modularized electronic device, wherein the first modularized electronic device is independently operable when dismounted from the second modularized electronic device.

Chen et al. teaches a rotatable display fixing module 120, which is connected between a display 110 and a base 130 of a notebook computer. The rotatable display fixing module 120 includes a first rotational device 122, a second rotational device 124, a fixing switch 126, at least one fixing hole 127 and at least one auxiliary fixing stud 128. The fixing switch 126, fixing hole 127 and auxiliary fixing stud 128 are used to fix the second rotational device 124 to effectively eliminate the shaking problem of the display 110 so that the display 110 can work stably (column 4, lines 1-15).

There is no teaching or suggestion in Chen et al. that the rotatable display fixing module 120 allows the display 110 to be dismounted from the base 130, or that the display 110 serves as an independent functional unit when being dismounted from the base 130.

The examiner considers that the fixing switch 126, fixing hole 127 and auxiliary fixing stud 128 in Chen et al. correspond to the fixed portion of the present invention. However, the fixed portion of the present invention is fixed to the second modularized electronic device, but is not used to fix the second rotational device 124 to eliminate the shaking problem of the display 110 of Chen et al.

Helot et al. teaches a computer 20, including a computer base 22, a display 28 and an articulate mechanism 36 as a connector between the computer base 22 and the display 28. There is no teaching or suggestion in Helot et al. that the articulate mechanism 36 allows the display 28 to be dismounted from the computer base 22, or that the display 28 serves as an independent functional unit when being dismounted from the computer base 22.

Therefore, the alleged combination of Chen et al. and Helot et al. cannot render claim 1 of the present invention obvious.

The examiner indicates that Armitage et al. (US 6,282,082) teaches a modularized electronic device 102 that is independently operable when dismounted from another modularized electronic device 104. However, since Chen et al. and Helot et al. do not teach or suggest a coupling architecture and method for the coupling and dismounting of modularized electronic devices, either the rotatable display fixing module 120 of Chen et al. or the articulate mechanism

36 of Helot et al. is not suitable for interconnecting the electronic devices 102, 104 of Armitage et al. and does not allow the electronic device 102 to be dismounted from the electronic device 104.

Therefore, the alleged combination of Chen et al., Helot et al. and Armitage et al. cannot render claims 10 and 17 of the present invention obvious.

Thus, the present invention is patentable over the cited references.

Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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